

XXIX.—*Descriptions of new Coleoptera from New Zealand.*
By Captain THOS. BROWN.

[Continued from p. 203.]

Group *Elateridæ*.

Lomemus puncticollis, sp. n.

Elongate, not parallel, slightly nitid; smoky black, legs yellow, basal three joints of antennæ a little rufescent; the pubescence on the elytra ash-coloured and slender for the most part, but near the shoulders and on the thorax it is yellow and conspicuous.

Head densely and distinctly punctured; the forehead rounded in front, its edge smooth, but not sharply defined. *Thorax* longer than broad, slightly and gradually narrowed anteriorly; posterior angles not divergent; its surface densely and moderately coarsely punctured, with a feebly marked longitudinal groove down the middle. *Elytra* moderately narrowed posteriorly, apices slightly dehiscent; evidently striate; the striæ not perceptibly punctured, they are more or less obsolete near the base, but the sutural ones are deepened behind; interstices finely transversely rugose; near the base the sculpture is almost granular.

Antennæ serrate, reaching backwards to beyond the middle thighs, with fine pubescence only; second and third joints short, and conjointly about a third shorter than the fourth, which is rather longer than the fifth; joints 4 to 10 with the outer angles a little prolonged.

♀. Subparallel, not narrow; pubescence cinereous, with scarcely any yellow; thorax but little narrowed towards the front; antennæ nearly filiform, the second and third joints as long as the fourth, rufo-fuscous.

Var. (♂).—Shoulders and thoracic angles fusco-testaceous.

The densely and very obviously punctured thorax and obsoletely punctate elytral striæ differentiate this from *L. flavipes*, Sharp, whilst the even curvature of the forehead and larger size show that it cannot be the *L. similis* of the same author.

♂. Length $2\frac{3}{4}$, breadth $\frac{3}{4}$ line.

Ngatira, on the Rotorua railway. One pair.

ZEAGLOPHUS, gen. nov.

Head rather small. *Forehead* curved in front, without

distinct margins, nearly horizontal; when seen from the side the middle appears somewhat angulate and depressed. *Clypeus* inflexed-perpendicular. *Labrum* moderately large, its basal suture distinct. *Antennal cavities* shallow, widely separated. *Eyes* large. *Antennæ* elongate and slender, filiform; basal joint short and stout, second abbreviated. *Tarsi* elongate, slender, simple; fourth joint of the posterior more than half the length of the third, the basal joint rather longer than the fifth.

Chin-piece well developed, much curved, so that an evident gap exists between it and the rather acute anterior angle of the thorax. *Prosternal sutures* not distinctly duplicate. *Prosternal process* hastate, narrow, of only moderate length, nowhere more than half the width of the space between the coxæ; it is on an abruptly lower plane (nearer the breast), and is ridged along the middle. *Mesosternal cavity* deep and sharply limited, oviform, without margins, hardly extending beyond the front of the middle coxæ; the space between these latter flattened or impressed. *Intercoxal suture* well marked. *Coxal lamina* simple, its trochanteral portion about twice as long as the femoral.

The type of this genus displays such peculiarities of structure that it cannot be placed in any genus known to me. It should, I think, be placed near *Chrosis*.

Zeaglophus pilicornis, sp. n.

Elongate, moderately attenuate posteriorly, only slightly convex; pubescence fine, ash-coloured, not dense; shining, black; tibiæ and tarsi fuscous.

Thorax about as long as broad, much narrowed anteriorly, its sides behind the middle gradually but considerably explanate and flattened; posterior angles rather short, thick, not at all divergent; the apices, indeed, are almost turned inwardly; the lateral portions are distinctly punctate, the disk is much more finely and quite distantly. *Elytra* evidently striate, the outer striæ distinctly punctured, the posterior sculpture irregular and ill-defined; interstices with fine serial punctures, not rugose.

Underside pitchy black, with depressed greyish pubescence, moderately finely and closely punctured; the flanks, as well as the middle of the prosternum, however, bear larger and more distant punctures; the metasternum is convex.

Antennæ more than half the length of the body, not serrate, with long outstanding, conspicuous, fuscous setæ or hairs; first joint short and stout, rather shorter than the third;

second very short, barely half the length of the following one; fourth obviously longer than the third, about as long as the succeeding ones.

This species may be easily distinguished from all the other New-Zealand Elateridæ by a glance at the form of the thorax; the explanate sides are marked off behind by a carina, which extends forwards from the inner extremity of each hind angle.

Length 4, breadth 1 line.

West Plains, Invercargill. Mr. Alfred Philpott sent me a specimen (a female, I believe) which he found during August 1893.

Group *Dascyllidæ*.

Cyprobius terrenus, sp. n.

Oblong-oval, nitid, densely clothed with conspicuous yellowish hairs; colour variable, reddish or fusco-castaneous; the legs and antennæ rufescent.

Head short and broad, closely punctured. *Antennæ* elongate; basal joint very broad, second rather thicker but much shorter than the third. *Thorax* strongly transverse, the base much rounded, the sides little more than half the length of the middle; its surface is moderately finely but distinctly and rather closely punctured. *Scutellum* large, triangular, punctate. *Elytra* moderately coarsely punctured, more finely behind.

Underside castaneous, closely sculptured and pubescent. *Mentum* quite as long as broad. *Labial palpi* not furcate; the terminal joint, however, though inserted at the apex of the penultimate, has a tendency to extend inwards. *Prosternal process* acuminate in front, scarcely reaching beyond the coxæ at either extremity. *Mesosternum* in front at the middle with a small almost diamond-shaped depression having raised margins.

On comparison with the typical species (*C. nitidus*) this is seen to be larger and more oblong; the sculpture of the thorax, instead of being nearly obsolete, is well defined, that of the elytra is deeper and coarser.

Length $2\frac{1}{2}$, breadth $1\frac{3}{8}$ line.

Mount Pirongia, Waikato, March 1894.

C. nitidus and *C. undulatus* were taken off shrubs, but this species was found on the ground amongst leaves. The pubescence is liable to removal by the least friction.

Veronatus amplus, sp. n.

Subopaque, ferruginous, very finely and closely punctured, covered with fine short yellow pubescence.

Head large, the genæ obtusely dilated behind the eyes and extending outwardly a little beyond them; it is rather convex; between the eyes there is a large, scarcely elevated, triangular space, the apex of which extends backwards; this part is less closely sculptured and pubescent than the portion behind it. *Antennæ* filiform, reaching backwards beyond the middle thighs, their first joint thick, second very short, the third about one third shorter than the fourth. *Thorax* twice as broad as long, its sides finely margined and nearly straight, the front angles much rounded, the posterior better defined but obtuse; the middle of the base and apex are broadly rounded; there is an indistinct central groove near the middle; halfway between the dorsal stria and the side there is a distinct transverse depression; the pubescence is unevenly distributed. *Elytra* very indistinctly tricostate, with some large ill-defined impressions near the sides; the clothing is so arranged as to cause a somewhat maculate appearance.

This is much larger than No. 567; the thoracic depressions and more rounded and differently sculptured head will lead to its recognition. The *mandibles* are short, and during repose are curved inwards just in front of the labrum; this is more exposed than in *V. longipalpis*. The sides of the thorax appear broader and flatter. The membranous space between the forehead and labrum is larger.

Length $5\frac{1}{4}$, breadth $2\frac{1}{4}$ lines.

Nelson. One example was caught on Mount Arthur by Messrs. Cheeseman and Urquhart.

Cyphon McKerrowi, sp. n.

Oviform, not narrow, convex, shining; black, thorax reddish yellow, elytra with a large pale yellow spot on the sides before the middle and two small contiguous ones close to the suture near the apex; pubescence ash-coloured on the dark parts, yellow elsewhere; legs and antennæ variegated fuscous.

Head finely punctured. *Thorax* strongly transverse, the middle of the base and apex obtusely rounded, its surface finely and distantly punctured. *Scutellum* large, triangular. *Elytra* not impressed, finely punctate, with an indistinct sutural stria on each near the middle. *Antennæ* stout, third joint barely half the bulk of the fourth, the latter rather longer than the fifth.

Underside nigro-fuscous, densely clothed with greyish pubescence.

Subocular line indistinct, the genal space moderately broad and smooth.

This is the prettiest and most distinctly marked species that has as yet been found in New Zealand.

Length $1\frac{3}{4}$, breadth 1 line.

Waiorongamai, about four miles from Te Aroha.

Named in honour of Mr. James McKerrow, F.R.A.S., who, as a member of the Council of the New Zealand Institute, has done much to facilitate scientific research.

Group *Melyridæ*.

Dasytes nigripes, sp. n.

Narrow, subparallel, glossy, æneous; antennæ and legs black, these latter slightly tinged with green; pubescence dense, short, depressed, almost brassy.

Head nearly as large as the thorax, narrowed behind, feebly impressed between the eyes; distantly, finely, yet quite distinctly punctured. *Eyes* large and prominent. *Antennæ* subserrate, joints 3 to 10 differ but little, eleventh much narrowed near extremity. *Thorax* about as long as broad, constricted in front, much narrowed near the base; the sides therefore appear swollen near the middle; its punctuation closer and more distinct than that of the head; there is a broad impression near the base. *Scutellum* broad. *Elytra* slightly depressed before the middle, moderately coarsely punctured, and, except near the shoulders, transversely rugose. *Tarsi* as long as the tibiæ.

This is of a more glossy brassy tinge than No. 1611 (*D. Cheesemani*); the clothing is more conspicuous and of a greyish yellow, and the sculpture is more distinct.

Length $1\frac{3}{4}$ -2, breadth $\frac{3}{8}$ line.

Wellington. Taken off tussocks on the hills near the coast by Mr. J. H. Lewis in January 1894.

Group *Cioidæ*.

Cis fulgens, sp. n.

Glossy, glabrous, rufo-piceous; the antennæ, palpi, and tarsi yellowish; club fuscous and opaque.

Head small; the strongly raised protuberances near the eyes are widely separated in the middle, which is smooth and shining. *Eyes* large and very prominent. *Antennæ* short,

basal joint stout, second also stout, but only about half the length of the first; third slender and more elongate than the succeeding ones; joints 8 to 10 form the club. *Thorax* large, as long as it is broad, its sides margined and slightly rounded; the surface finely, rather indistinctly, and distantly punctured. *Elytra* scarcely wider than the thorax at the base, their sides a little rounded, so that they are widest near the middle; they are a good deal narrowed posteriorly, and they are apparently without sculpture of any kind.

This is a rather small, convex, oblong-oval species, which should be placed near *C. perpinguis* and *C. obesulus*; from these it may be separated by its convex eyes, obsolete sculpture, and narrower shape.

Length $\frac{5}{8}$, breadth nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ line.

Mount Te Aroha. One, March 1894.

Cis pygmaeus, sp. n.

Nude, shining, fuscous; thorax pale yellowish grey, irregularly mottled with brown; the legs and antennae somewhat testaceous.

Head simple, pale, finely and distantly punctured. *Thorax* rather broader than long, the sides finely margined and slightly rounded; posterior angles rectangular; it is remotely and finely punctured. *Elytra* much longer than the thorax; they are rather more distinctly punctured than it is, but not at all closely. *Tarsi* stout.

This is the smallest species I am acquainted with. The bald surface and fine sculpture will lead to its recognition. It is just possible that the maculation of the thorax may not prove to be a constant character.

Length $\frac{1}{2}$, breadth $\frac{1}{4}$ line.

Mount Te Aroha. Found amongst leaves on the ground. Mr. J. H. Lewis at the same time found a second specimen, which I am unable to separate, the only noticeable difference being the darker unspotted thorax.

Cis lobipes, sp. n.

Cylindric, not narrow, moderately shining, clear red; the antennae, tarsi, and palpi yellow; legs pale red; the yellow setae on the elytra are erect and conspicuous; they are not, however, scale-like, as in *C. recurvatus*; those on the thorax are slender and decumbent.

Head simple, punctate. *Antennae* with joints 5 to 7 small and transverse, the third and fourth longer than broad; the

three joints of the club are rather broad and infusate. *Thorax* hardly any longer than broad, its sides much rounded, so that the angles are obtuse and ill-defined; it is closely and comparatively coarsely punctured. *Scutellum* small. *Elytra* of the same width as the thorax throughout, vertical and obtusely rounded behind; closely, rather coarsely, and somewhat rugosely punctured. *Tibiæ* a good deal expanded towards the extremity, the anterior with three or four minute denticles; the intermediate have a sort of lobe on the outside near the apex; this lobe is finely pectinate.

The anteriorly rounded thorax, robust rough-looking body, and lobate tibiæ distinguish this from all but *C. Fultoni*.

Length $\frac{3}{4}$, breadth $\frac{3}{8}$ line.

Howick.

One individual has been in my possession for several years. I delayed its description in the hope that others might be found.

Group *Opatridæ*.

Paraphylax binodosus, sp. n.

Suboblong, opaque, chestnut-red; the head sometimes piccous, the tarsi and palpi red, antennæ dark obscure red; densely clothed with decumbent scale-like hairs and erect setæ; the elevated parts and the sides of the thorax with pale tow-like clothing; on the elytra the hairs are slightly variegate, mostly pale brown and yellowish grey; the tibiæ have one or two dark marks.

Head impunctate, the curved interantennal suture directed forwards at the sides. *Eyes* prominent, oblique, lateral, coarsely faceted, almost quite truncate in front. *Antennæ* elongate, setose, the fourth joint distinctly shorter than the third; joints 4 to 9 longer than broad. *Thorax* transverse, narrowed towards the base, the sides broad and nearly flat, so that the disk appears as if it were abruptly elevated and uneven; in front at the middle there are two large prominent elevations, separated by a broad deep channel; there is no distinct sculpture visible when it is denuded, but in its natural state it is rough and uneven with coarse scaly matter. *Elytra* subquadrate, deeply depressed and emarginate at the base; the shoulders rounded; these, owing to the coarse sappy matter and setæ, seem elevated; the series of punctures appear small as seen through the clothing; when the latter has been scraped off the sutural row on each is seen to consist of closely placed punctures; the three or four other series are directed obliquely towards the shoulders, but near the

scutellar region there are some irregular punctures; the posterior declivity is nearly vertical and very much narrowed; the two rows of punctures on each side of the suture do not form striæ; in perfect specimens there are several setose elevations on and near the sides, but the sutural portion is plane. Scutellar region with grey pile.

Underside densely clothed, mentum punctate; front coxæ rufous, the others pale castaneous; the intermediate segments of the abdomen with deep and, when examined from behind, sinuous sutures.

This differs from the typical species (No. 644) by the more elevated disk and flattened sides of the thorax, by the more prominent frontal elevations and the hair-like elytral clothing. From No. 645 it may be separated by a glance at the antennæ; these in *P. varius* have shorter joints; joints 4 to 9 are not longer or but little longer than they are broad, according to sex.

Length $2\frac{3}{4}$, breadth $1\frac{1}{2}$ line.

Capleston, Westland. Three individuals were found by Mr. Cavell.

Group Trachyscelidæ.

Chærodes fuscatus, sp. n.

Variëgate, mostly fuscous; the legs, antennæ, palpi, front of head, the lateral and basal margins of the thorax, and sometimes the sides of the elytra testaceous.

Head coarsely and rugosely sculptured. *Thorax* transverse, its sides finely margined and strongly rounded; apex incurved, anterior angles obtuse, the posterior subacute; its punctuation distinct, but irregular, the sides nearly smooth. *Scutellum* broad, smooth. *Elytra* rather broader than the thorax, shoulders rounded, apices obliquely narrowed; the lateral margin is bent inwards at the shoulder, but does not extend beyond the hind angle of the thorax; their surface is covered with a coarse rugose punctuation, which, though close on the disk, becomes more open and less rugose towards the sides. *Legs* thickly setose, the anterior tibiæ with oblique terminal lobes extending as far as the third tarsal joint.

Underside sordid testaceous, sparingly setose.

This is smaller than the typical species and is more nearly allied to *C. concolor*, Sharp. The body is nearly glabrous and a little shining. The thorax is more closely and the elytra more rugosely punctured than my specimens of *C. concolor*, and the middle tibiæ seem to be more densely covered with greyish setæ. The numerous examples I have seen

exhibit no well-marked variations. Nos. 647, 648, and 649 occur amongst algæ along the east side, whereas *C. fuscatus* was found on the opposite coast.

Length $3\frac{1}{4}$, breadth 2 lines.

Manukau Harbour and New Plymouth.

Group Diaperidæ.

Menimus levicollis, sp. n.

Convex, oval, shining, minutely pubescent; nigro-piceous, legs and antennæ pale red, lateral margins and front of head rufescent.

Head distinctly but not coarsely punctured. *Thorax* transverse, gradually and a little curvedly narrowed towards the front, the margins there thinner than at the base; distantly, quite minutely, and indistinctly punctured; base subtruncate, apex slightly bisinuate. *Scutellum* short, not smooth. *Elytra* attenuated and narrowly margined posteriorly, of the same width as the thorax at the base, slightly wider behind the shoulders, with numerous almost regular rows of moderately coarse punctures, these become finer behind and are least regular near the base; a few minute grey hairs can be detected. *Legs* with yellowish pubescence.

Underside distinctly punctate, sparsely pubescent. *Prosternum* nearly smooth and a little concave along the flanks; its process moderately narrow, horizontal, and attaining the base. *Mesosternum* slightly raised and rather smooth in the middle.

The specimens I possess cannot be referred to *M. dubius*, which they most resemble, because the punctuation of the head and elytra is evidently coarser and the eyes are rather smaller, though not at all minute, as in some species. It may be distinguished from *M. Batesi*, Sharp, by the rather shorter form and obsolete thoracic sculpture. In one example the femora are yellow.

Length $1\frac{3}{4}$, breadth $\frac{7}{8}$ line.

Tarukenga. Ten individuals found on the underside of decaying logs.

Obs. In this genus the prosternal process passes over the mesosternum and touches, or nearly touches, the suture between the middle coxæ when the body is bent; when relaxed and straightened the mesosternum is uncovered. There is no saltatorial power.

Group Tenebrionidæ.

DEMTRIUS, gen. nov.

Body elongate. *Palpi* short, terminal joints securiform. *Mentum* subquadrate, rather longer than broad. *Tibiæ* with small apical spines. *Tarsi* narrow, simple, finely setose below. *Mandibles* bifid at apex. *Eyes* transverse, extending below the surface, not deeply emarginate; the thickened lateral margins of the forehead touch the eyes. *Prosternal process* of moderate breadth, reaching just beyond the hind margin of the prosternum. *Trochanters* small but distinct. *Antennæ* thick, inserted in round cavities near the inner and lower margins of the eyes, 11-articulate; first joint nearly concealed above, third rather longer than broad but not much longer than the fourth; joints 4 to 8 each a little shorter, but only very slightly thicker than the preceding; ninth and tenth transverse, only a little broader than the eighth; eleventh short, oblique at apex.

From *Lorelus* it differs by the shape of the eyes, the less broadly securiform terminal joints of the palpi, more slender femora, the more widely separated front and middle coxæ, broader epipleuræ, and by the simple penultimate joints of the tarsi.

Demtrius carinulatus, sp. n.

Elongate, subdepressed, nearly glabrous, having only very minute, hardly noticeable, grey setæ; piceous black, the legs, antennæ, and palpi pitchy red.

Head narrower than the thorax, curvedly narrowed in front of the eyes; the margins of the forehead reddish; it is moderately finely and not closely punctured. *Thorax* transversely quadrate, very slightly rounded and narrowed towards the anterior angles; behind the middle the sides are almost quite straight, posterior angles rectangular; lateral margins well developed, with distinct channels inside; base and apex subtruncate; its surface moderately, not closely, and somewhat irregularly punctured. *Scutellum* broad. *Elytra* broader than the thorax at the base, quite twice its length, their margins more explanate near the shoulders and behind than in the middle; their surface finely punctate and indistinctly rugose; they have broad shallow striæ; the interstices are slightly and irregularly elevated, the third, fifth, and seventh are more distinctly raised than the others, and become almost carinate behind. *Legs* nearly bare. *Antennæ* finely pubescent.

Underside more or less coarsely punctured, the abdomen much more finely; fourth ventral segment rather shorter than the third, fifth transversely impressed at the base; prosternum truncate in front, the flanks marked off by oblique sutures; prosternal process bisulcate between the coxæ.

Length 3, breadth $\frac{7}{8}$ line.

Invercargill. Mr. Alf. Philpott sent me a specimen, and Mr. T. F. Cheeseman, the Curator of the Auckland Museum, found a mutilated example on Mount Arthur several years ago.

Group Cistelidæ.

Omedes apterus, sp. n.

Oblong-oval, slightly convex, almost glabrous, fuscous; the legs and antennæ testaceous.

Head rounded and narrowed behind, finely but distinctly and irregularly punctured; between the eyes there is a broad depression; the space between the forehead and labrum is very short, almost linear. *Labrum* reddish, pilose. *Eyes* large, but not protruding beyond the lateral outline of the head; they are touched by the raised antennal orbits and they are quite transverse. *Antennæ* pubescent, reaching the hind thighs, third joint longer than the first, twice the length of the second. *Thorax* broader than long, finely margined; the sides rounded before the middle, nearly straight behind; posterior angles rounded, base bisinuate; its disk with rather fine, shallow, irregular punctures; there are two rounded foveæ near the middle and two smaller ones close to the basal margin. *Scutellum* triangular, transverse, red. *Elytra* finely margined, shoulders somewhat narrowed; each elytron has eight series of rather fine punctures; there is an additional scutellar row, the sutural two almost form striæ and are recurved at the apex; there is a slight longitudinal impression inside the shoulder; the interstices are minutely and densely sculptured and have a few very fine punctures.

Tarsi pubescent, the basal two joints of the anterior narrowed towards the base, the second slightly shorter than the first, third short and broad, with a short membrane underneath; fourth with a large semitransparent membrane, extending nearly halfway under the fifth; posterior pair elongate.

Most nearly resembles *O. fuscatus*; the terminal joint of the maxillary palpi more transverse and cultriform; scutellum shorter and broader; hind angles of thorax more obtuse;

elytra not depressed between the middle and the base; thorax shorter, the surface more shining; body apterous.

Length 3, breadth $1\frac{1}{2}$ line.

Wellington. One, sent by Mr. J. H. Lewis.

Group Salpingidæ.

Salpingus ornatus, sp. n.

Glossy, nearly nude; head and thorax fusco-rufous; elytra nearly black, each with a testaceous curvate mark extending from the shoulder to the middle, but not united to the opposite one, and a large subapical but less definite spot; antennæ red, but with three or four terminal joints piceous; legs fuscous.

Head coarsely punctured. *Eyes* large and prominent. *Thorax* as long as broad, widest near the front, a good deal narrowed behind, anterior angles rounded; it is coarsely punctured, some of the punctures are longitudinally confluent. *Elytra* oblong, wider than the thorax at the base, their sides but little rounded: they are slightly flattened before the middle, with irregular series of coarse punctures; the inner three on each elytron scarcely extend beyond the middle, the fifth is more prolonged, the hind portion is quite smooth.

This is certainly nearly allied to *S. perpunctatus* (No. 702); the thorax is a little longer, not so broad near the front; the sides are obliquely narrowed there and the intervals between the punctures are not so large; the marks on the elytra are different and their punctuation is less regular.

Length 1, breadth $\frac{3}{4}$ line.

West Plains, Invercargill. Two examples from Mr. A. Philpott.

[To be continued.]

XXX.—*On an Abnormal Crab* (Cancer pagurus). By JAMES R. TOSH, M.A., B.Sc., St. Andrews Marine Laboratory.

IN June of 1894 a crab with a strange malformation was brought to the Marine Laboratory, St. Andrews, by one of the fishermen. Prof. McIntosh desired me to figure it. The greater part of the right chela was out of sight, being situated in the branchial chamber, only the first three joints, a small